

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 CU-04 SIL-01 LAB-06 IO-13 PC-15

RSR-01 AID-20 CCO-00 FBO-01 NIC-01 M-03 OC-06 OPR-02

SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SY-10 NEA-10 SCS-03 /169 W

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O R 192010 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4605

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 2655

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CI, PINT, PINS

SUBJ: RALLIES AND RUMORS

REF: SANTIAGO 2632

1. SUMMARY: POLITICAL TENSION AND POTENTIAL FOR CONFRONTATION REMAIN HIGH ALTHOUGH NO MAJOR CLASHES OCCURRED YESTERDAY OR TODAY UP TO MIDDAY. PDC AND CUT ANNOUNCED FINAL DETAILS OF THEIR MASS RALLIES FOR, RESPECTIVELY, LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND THURSDAY. POLICE RAIDED STUDIOS OF NEW OPPOSITION- ORIENTED TV CHANNEL 6, EL TENIENTE STRIKERS VOWED TO FIGHT ON, AND STUDENTS, DOCTORS, AND CAMPESINOS HAVE BEGUN OR ANNOUNCED SYMPATHY STRIKES. COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS ISSUED ANOTHER JOINT STATEMENT CLAIMING EXISTING DIFFERENCES WITH PRESIDENT ALLENDE OVER HIS MEETING WITH TENIENTE STRIKERS WILL BE RESOLVED IN DIRECT CONVERSATIONS, AND RUMORS CONTINUE OF IMMINENT ENTRY OF MILITARY INTO CABINET. END SUMMARY

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2. OPPOSITION RADIO STATIONS REPORT PLAINCLOTHES POLICE (INVESTIGACIONES) RAIDED STUDIOS OF NEW PDC- INFLUENCED UNIVERSITY OF CHILE CHANNEL 6 TV (REFTEL) EARLY THIS MORNING AND DESTROYED EQUIPMENT. STATION NOW ASSESSING DAMAGE (SEPTEL). RAID, REPORTEDLY ORDERED BY SANTIAGO PROVINCE' S INTENDENTE, PRECEDED BY MINISTRY INTERIOR STATEMENT THREATENING STERN MEASURES AGAINST " ILLEGAL" STATION. ARRESTS AT STATION NUMBERED 31.

3. PDC RECEIVED GOVT AUTHORIZATION FOR TONIGHT' S RALLY. PARTY VOWED TO ABSTAIN FROM STREET MARCHES AND TO KEEP RALLY PEACEFUL. GOVT PROMISED FULL POLICE PROTECTION.

4. CUT OFFICIALS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILS ON THEIR JUNE 21 ONE- DAY STRIKE AND RALLY. CUT CALLED ON WORKERS TO CEASE ALL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING PROVISION OF SUCH BASIC SERVICES AS ELECTRICITY, IN SANTIAGO, VALPARAISO, CONCEPCION, AND ARICA. MAJOR RAL- LIES BEGINNING 10 A. M. ARE SCHEDULED FOR FIRST THREE CITIES. IN SANTIAGO, SPEAKERS WILL BE PRES ALLENDE, CUT PRES JORGE GODOY (COMMUNIST), AND REPRESENTATIVE OF COPPER WORKERS FEDERATION.

5. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION RESCHEDULED ITS ANNOUNCED ONE- DAY STRIKE (REFTEL) FROM JUNE 21 TO JUNE 20 TO AVOID CONFUSION WITH CUT STRIKE.

6. EL TENIENTE' S STRIKING MINERS HELD TWO MEETINGS JUNE 18, ONE IN RANCAGUA AND OTHER AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY HERE, WHERE MAJORITY OF SANTIAGO CONTINGENT IS STILL ENSCONCED. BOTH MEETINGS VOWED TO CONTINUE STRIKE " TO THE BITTER END" CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FEDERATION (FEUC) BEGAN 48- HOUR STRIKE IN SOLIDARITY WITH MINERS. BOTH GROUPS ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO ATTEND TODAY' S PDC RALLY. HEAVILY PDC- INFLUENCED " TRIUNFO CAMPESINO" FEDERATION ALSO ANNOUNCED ITS OWN 48- HOUR SOLIDARITY STRIKE WITH TENIENTE MINERS.

7. OPPOSITION AND PRO- GOVT PRESS PRINTED WILDLY CONFLICTING VERSIONS ON HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY WORKING AT CHUQUICAMATA AND TO WHAT EXTENT MINE' S PRODUCTION HAS BEEN AFFECTED.

8. NOTING PRES ALLENDE' S REPLY (REFTEL) TO THEIR INITIAL STATEMENT, COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST PARTIES ISSUED ANOTHER JOINT DECLARATION CLAIMING OPPOSITION PRESS HAD " DISTORTED" THE BASIC " UNITY OF CRITERIA" WITHIN UP, AND THAT PRESENT " DIFFERENCE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPINION" WILL BE RESOLVED IN DIRECT TALKS WITH ALLENDE. RADICAL PARTY (PR) AND API, MINOR MEMBERS OF UP COALITION, MEANWHILE ISSUED DECLARATIONS CRITICIZING INITIAL PCCH/ PS STATEMENT AND BACKING ALLENDE, WITH CHRISTIAN LEFT, ANOTHER UP MEMBER, ANNOUNCED

ITS AGREEMENT WITH PCCH/ PS POSITION THAT PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT HAVE MET WITH TENIENTE STRIKERS. OPPOSITION POLITICIANS AND PRESS POUNCED ON THE EXCHANGES AS ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF INTERNAL UP DISAGREEMENTS AND SQUABBLING.

9. RUMORS PERSIST OF IMMINENT ENTRY OF ARMED FORCES INTO CABINET, WITH SPECULATION NOW CENTERING ON CONDITIONS DEMANDED BY MILITARY FROM ALLENDE AND UP. PS ISSUED STATEMENT IMPLICITLY REBUTTING PRESS SPECULATION THAT PS OPPOSED MILITARY RE- ENTRY.

10. CLASHES BETWEEN OPPOSING BANDS OF STUDENTS AND POLICE WERE REPORTED IN OSORNO AND LINARES. IN FORMER, AT LEAST FIVE PERSONS WERE REPORTEDLY WOUNDED BY GUNFIRE.

11. OPPOSITION EL MERCURIO JUNE 17 PUBLISHED PURPORTED TEXT OF INTERNAL CUT MEMO WHICH TALKED OF ORGANIZING A " SURPRISE" NATIONWIDE GENERAL STRIKE, NOTED LOW MORALE AMONG UP MEMBERS, URGED MODERATION IN WORKERS WAGE DEMANDS, AND CALLED FOR ELIMINATION OF SOME OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO STATIONS. UP MEDIA IGNORED MEMO, BUT OPPOSITION MEDIA CONTINUE COMMENT ON IT, POINTING TO THURSDAY CUT STRIKE AS EVIDENCE OF ITS AUTHENTICITY.

12. SENATE MEETS THIS AFTERNOON TO CONSIDER IMPEACHMENT CHARGES, BROUGHT AT REQUEST OF TENIENTE STRIKERS AND APPROVED BY CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, AGAINST MINMINES BITAR AND MIN LABOR FIGUEROA. CHAMBER COMMITTEE, DOMINATED BY OPPOSITION 3-2, WILL TAKE UP IMPEACHMENT OF MINECONOMY MILLAS, ACCUSED BY PDC OF PARTISAN DISTRIBUTION OF FOODSTUFFS. GROUP OF TENIENTE STRIKERS REMAINS ON CONGRESS GROUNDS.

13. COMMENT: ALL SIDES CONTINUE TAKE RIGID STANCES AND GIVE IMPRESSION THEY ARE SPOILING FOR A FIGHT. CHANNEL 6 INCIDENT AND KIDNAP RUMOR SHOULD HELP TO MAKE TONIGHT'S PDC RALLY SPIRITED, AT THE LEAST. ARMED FORCES ARE CLEARLY THE INTENDED AUDIENCE OF BOTH PDC AND CUT SHOWS OF STRENGTH AND WILL BE WATCHING, AND WATCHED, CLOSELY.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA02655
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730624/aaaajhln.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SANTIAGO 2632
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980217
Subject: RALLIES AND RUMORS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CI
To: ARA
BUENOS AIRES
LIMA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005